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MEXICO.

Instructions to Sanitary Inspector Lloyd at San Luis Potosi.

SAN LUIS POTOSI, July 15, 1899.

SIR: I have this day nominated you as the Marine-Hospital Service inspector at San Luis Potosi, Mexico. Your salary, dating from and including this day, will be \$75 each month until relieved from duty. Your duties are as follows:

First. To endeavor to learn from reliable sources the names of persons who frequent Tampico, and who visit Vera Cruz by the weekly steamer connecting the two places.

Second. To refuse health certificates to any persons from Tampico bound for the States, unless their baggage has been disinfected and they have undergone ten days' detention.

Third. To arrange detention credit on the slips of passengers sent to you from Monterey or City of Mexico.

Fourth. To pass those persons residing in San Luis Potosi whose health status is known to you.

Fifth. To refuse any testimony except that of absolutely reliable authority.

Sixth. To forward to me each week (Saturday) a report on all work performed by you.

*Seventh. To disinfect baggage by saturating a cloth with 200 c. c. of formalin to every 12 cubic feet of trunk space, and exposing the container, with the lid fastened and crevices and keyhole made air-tight by putty or wet paper to the sun for forty-eight hours. This to be followed by exposing trunk contents to aqua ammonia in the same strength and in the same way.

Eighth. To label all baggage, either inspected or disinfected, with the labels furnished by the Mexican National and Mexican Central lines.

Respectfully, yours,

L. E. COFER,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Dr. ARTHUR E. LLOYD,

San Luis Potosi, Mexico.

Inspection service at Monterey.

MEXICO, MEXICO, July 17, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report on my official visit to Monterey, at which place I arrived on the morning of July 13, 1899. My authority for visiting Monterey was the general sense of Bureau letter (J. W. B.) of June 16, 1899. My reason for visiting this town was the necessity of nominating an inspector for the purpose of enforcing there the same restrictions already in vogue in Mexico and San Luis Potosi. I called upon Consul-General Pollard immediately upon my arrival, but found the office in the charge of Vice Consul-General Carroll. This officer received me very cordially and assured me of the necessity of establishing and maintaining some definite system of certification of passengers going to the United States. I was also informed by him that the people of Monterey were thoroughly alive to the importance of taking every precaution against the intro-

* By inadvertence the instructions as printed on page 1149 of the last number of the PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS were erroneous in that the quantity of formalin prescribed for 12 cubic feet of space was too small and the time of exposure too short.

duction of yellow fever during the present summer, as the general depression caused by the epidemic of last year was still fresh in their minds. The perfectly clean streets of Monterey were in evidence as to the precautions referred to.

Monterey has a population estimated at from 63,000 to 75,000. It is connected directly with Tampico through the Mexican and Gulf Line, and indirectly with Tampico through the Mexican National and Mexican Central lines via San Luis Potosi. The time distance either way is about twenty-four hours. The route most commonly taken by passengers is by the Mexican and Gulf Line via Monterey and Trevino, thence by the Mexican International Line through Eagle Pass. Passengers from Tampico are required to lay over in Monterey from 4.30 p. m. until 11.30 p. m. if they intend to enter the United States via Laredo. On the other hand, if they desire to enter the States via Eagle Pass they may go through Monterey to Trevino, thence by Mexican International Line to destination. In our inability in Mexico to compel these passengers to submit to inspection in Monterey lies our weakest point in protecting the border from Vera Cruz via Tampico. The only remedy lies in a vigorous quarantine at Eagle Pass, which may in time serve to make this route unpopular to passengers. Under orders from here, Inspector W. H. Vilas, United States Marine Hospital Service, has under detention 2 passengers from Tampico, whose health status is not satisfactory. I have transmitted to you a copy of the instructions given to Inspector W. H. Vilas. In my weekly report to you I will give the transactions of the Service at Monterey, which will demonstrate in time the importance of that city as an inspection and disinfection base.

Respectfully, yours,

L. E. COFER,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Weekly report of train-inspection service in the City of Mexico.

MEXICO, MEXICO, July 17, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the transactions in the train-inspection service operated in the City of Mexico by the United States Marine-Hospital Service for the week ended July 17, 1899: Total number of passengers bound for the United States inspected, 161; number identified and passed without detention, 154; number detained and baggage disinfected, 6; number refusing detention and disinfection, 1.

Respectfully, yours,

L. E. COFER,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Yellow fever in Vera Cruz.

VERA CRUZ, MEXICO, July 13, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to report the following mortality record from this place for the week ended July 13 from yellow fever: July 7, 16 cases, 7 deaths. July 8, 7 cases, 4 deaths. July 9, 4 cases, no deaths. July 10, 5 cases, 3 deaths. July 11, 11 cases, 10 deaths. July 12, 14 cases, 3 deaths. July 13, 6 cases, 1 death. Total, 63 cases, 28 deaths. Mortality in the city from all causes, 61.

The fever was a little worse during the past week than it was the week before, but the daily fluctuations of the disease are so erratic that